

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing February as
Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

BREAUX

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing February
2 as Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month.

3 *Whereas, One in three teens in the United States is a*
4 *victim of physical, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating*
5 *partner, a figure that far exceeds victimization rates for other*
6 *types of violence affecting youth;*

7 *Whereas, A 2009 Indiana Youth Risk Behavior Survey*
8 *advises that more than one out of ten (12.1%) ninth through*
9 *twelfth graders surveyed reported being hit, slapped or*
10 *physically hurt by their dating partner within twelve months*
11 *prior to the survey, with similar results (11.1%) for teens*
12 *regarding questions about forced sexual intercourse;*

13 *Whereas, At 17.3%, Indiana far surpasses the national*
14 *average of 10.5% of girls in grades nine through twelve who*
15 *said they have been raped (National Youth Risk Behavior*
16 *Survey);*

17 *Whereas, High school students who experience physical*
18 *violence in a dating relationship are more likely to use drugs*
19 *and alcohol, are at greater risk of suicide and are much more*
20 *likely to carry patterns of abuse into future relationships;*

21 *Whereas, Young people victimized by a dating partner*
22 *are more likely to engage in risky sexual behavior and*



1 *unhealthy dieting behaviors and the experience may disrupt*
 2 *normal development of self-esteem and body image;*

3 *Whereas, Nearly half of teens who experience dating*
 4 *violence report that incidents of abuse took place in a school*
 5 *building or on school grounds;*

6 *Whereas, Only 33% of teens who are in an abusive*
 7 *relationship ever tell anyone about the abuse, and 81% of*
 8 *parents surveyed either believe teen dating violence is not an*
 9 *issue or admit they do not know if it is one;*

10 *Whereas, By providing young people with education*
 11 *about healthy relationships and relationship skills and by*
 12 *changing attitudes that support violence, we recognize that*
 13 *dating violence can be prevented;*

14 *Whereas, It is essential to raise community awareness*
 15 *and to provide training for teachers, counselors and school*
 16 *staff so that they may recognize when youth are exhibiting*
 17 *signs of dating violence;*

18 *Whereas, The establishment of Teen Dating Violence*
 19 *Awareness and Prevention Month will benefit young people,*
 20 *their families, schools and communities regardless of*
 21 *socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation or ethnicity;*
 22 *and*

23 *Whereas, Everyone has the right to a safe and healthy*
 24 *relationship and to be free from abuse: Therefore,*

25 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly*
 26 *of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives*
 27 *concurring:*

28 SECTION 1. That the Indiana State Senate recognizes February
 29 2016 as Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month.

30 SECTION 2. That the Secretary of the Senate transmit one copy
 31 of this resolution to the Marion County Prosecutor's Office.

